

National Congress Bulletin



SEPTEMBER 1958 • PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 11 • VOL. 26, NO. 1

Dear P.T.A. President:

THE PARENT-TEACHER YEAR has really begun. You know that your first meeting was a success. You realize, perhaps, that people in P.T.A. work are more helpful and more devoted than you had, deep in your heart, supposed they could be. May your next meeting be even better than your first—and each of those to come better than the last.

» Next month you will be putting your maximum effort and emphasis on membership. You will be not only “knocking on every door” but making every person with an interest in your school feel wanted and needed. You do this not just because you wish to build up your membership but because each one is wanted and is needed in order to give children

and young people the help and understanding they ought to have at home, in school, and throughout the community.

» You will read the formal “Membership Proclamation” elsewhere in this “National Congress Bulletin.” I hope you will like and use it, but I am speaking to you especially about membership because your support will mean so much to your membership, hospitality, and publicity chairmen. All of them, I am sure, are concentrating at this time on your membership enrollment.

» You will have, by now, a program tailored to the needs of your own homes, your own school, your own community. Maybe this year you will have to exert all your effort to secure new buildings. Or maybe you will just be standing firmly on the principle that since all children are not cast in the same mold, the school program in the United States and in your own section of it must be broad and diverse—not only to meet children’s varying needs but to give them the knowledge and training that should be a part of everyone’s background.

» And yet it is my hope that all of your energy and thought will not be confined to these activities alone but that through your P.T.A. programs, your study groups, and the use of community resources, you will help to strengthen family life. For it is in a loving family, invigorated by the concern of its members each for the other, that boys and girls grow best in body, mind, and spirit.

» Yes, we want good schools and good communities, but first of all we want good homes.

» I speak to you, my fellow presidents, out of the depth of my conviction. May your organization this year help to build a nation of homes from which will come the kind of citizens America must have to grow ever better and greater. The world needs such citizens.

» I think you will be interested in knowing that during the month of August I spent eighteen days in Europe attending meetings related to education and to our work. I am certain that all of us must increase our understanding of all the people of this earth, for that very understanding may be the undergirding of peace. I hope you will like my story of it in the October issue of our P.T.A. magazine, the “National Parent-Teacher.”

Sincerely,

James C. Parker

MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers



» Together at the entrance to the National Congress Headquarters are members of the Executive Committee: (from left) Mrs. Jennelle Moorhead, vice-president; Mrs. L. E. Burr, vice-president; Mrs. Clifford N. Jenkins, first vice-president; Mrs. Leon S. Price, chairman of the national chairmen's conference and member-at-large; Mrs. Fred L. Keeler, vice-president; Mrs. James C. Parker, president; Mrs. A. L. Hendrick, vice-president; Galen Saylor, treasurer; J. C. Moffitt, second vice-president; Mrs. Ruth Gagliardo, vice-president; Mrs. A. Kenneth Spencer, secretary; Mrs. Cecil S. Garey, vice-president; Mrs. Ralph Hobbs, vice-president; and Mrs. Philip A. Hyatt, chairman of the state presidents' conference and member-at-large. Absent from the picture is Mrs. Bertram Hadley, a vice-president.

MEMBERSHIP PROCLAMATION

OCTOBER

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Look Homeward, Nation

AGAIN the time has come for us to knock on every door. There are more of us to knock on doors this year because the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has grown tremendously, as it has almost every year since its beginning. In the last ten years our membership has shown the magnificent increase of 114 per cent!

» This growth has come about, and will inevitably continue, because we are a voluntary organization, striving toward goals that mean much to every American: the best possible homes, schools, communities—the best possible world. And every one of our millions of members is needed to help knock on the doors of neighbors who do not yet belong to a P.T.A. and to invite them to join with us in the tasks we have willingly, gladly undertaken.

» And why do we knock on doors? Why don't we stop people on the way to work or approach them in shops, libraries, and offices? We knock on doors because we want our message to reach people where they live. And when I speak of where people live, I am not thinking of a city, a town, or a farm. I am not thinking of a place on a map or of an address in a directory. I am thinking of the private sanctuary we call home.

» Why does the P.T.A. seek people out in their homes? Because, despite all change, home is still the dwelling that houses our most profound and satisfying experiences. Come what may, home is the stronghold of personal dignity. It is to home that we look for a vast and limitless reservoir of lovingness.

» Home is a refuge, a fount from which we can renew our courage. It is a place in which we can find ease for our tenseness. Home is a generator of trust, of faith in ourselves

and in others. Home is a world within the world, where ways can be ways of love and all paths, paths of peace.

» Above all, home is the child's first school. It is at home that children learn lessons that they will carry with them for a lifetime. For what the young hear and see and feel in their earliest years largely determines their views, their hopes—their fears.

» America is a nation of homes. Home is the source of our nation's immortality—of the continuity achieved by the human race. Dictators in various ages and guises have always known that the home is democracy's first line of defense. For where the democratic family governs, there tyranny has never been able to gain a foothold.

» In this time of aspiration and achievement, this hour of searching self-appraisal, our nation looks to the homes from which it takes its character and from which it draws its strength. Only the home can build in the nation's youth the strength that is our country's greatness.

» It is the P.T.A. that should broadcast to the world the message "Look Homeward, Nation!" For the primary purpose of the P.T.A. is to safeguard children, to build for the future in such a way that in every community the lights of home may always shine out.

» And so I, Karla V. Parker, president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, do hereby designate the month of October 1958 as Membership Enrollment Month, and call upon every parent-teacher member to knock once more on the door, and at the heart, of every American—so that all of us, working together, may make America the best possible home for all our children.

Karla V. Parker



OUR GOAL:
500,000 more
memberships
by April 15, 1959

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BYLAWS OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

As Adopted at the 1958 Annual Convention



Article I—NAME

The name of this organization shall be the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

★★Article II—OBJECTS

The Objects of the National Congress shall be:

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, church, and community.
- To raise the standards of home life.
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the training of the child.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.

★★Article III—POLICIES

Section 1.

The program of the Congress shall be educational and shall be developed through conferences, committees, and projects.

Section 2.

The Congress shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan.

The Congress shall not endorse a commercial enterprise or a candidate. The name of the Congress or the names of its branches or the names of any members in their official capacities shall not be used in any connection with a commercial concern or with any partisan interest, or for any other purpose than the regular work of the Congress.

Section 3.

The Congress, its local units, and its branches shall seek neither to direct the administrative activities of the schools nor to control their policies.

Section 4.

The Congress shall not enter into membership with other organizations save such international or national organizations as may be approved by the National Board of Managers. A state* branch or any of its

*For key to single and double stars, see Articles XX, Section 2,b, and XXII, Section 2.

*The word *state* used in this sense in a Congress publication refers to the area from which an organized branch of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers draws its membership.

divisions may cooperate with other organizations and agencies active in child welfare, such as conference groups or coordinating councils, provided their representative makes no commitments that bind the group he represents.

Article IV—MEMBERSHIP

LOCAL UNIT MEMBERSHIPS

Section 1.

a. ★★Any person interested in the Objects of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers who is willing to uphold its policies and subscribe to its Bylaws may become a member upon payment of dues, as hereinafter provided.

b. The members of the National Congress shall be the individual members of the local Congress units in state branches, and of local Congress units in unorganized areas.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Section 2.

a. Honorary National Life Membership may be conferred for distinguished service, for which a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the treasurer of the National Congress.

b. Honorary National Life Membership provides only national convention guest privileges upon payment of the convention registration fee.

c. An Honorary National Life Member may become an active member upon payment of dues in a local Congress unit.

d. Each state branch shall be authorized to determine in its bylaws what shall constitute an honorary state life membership.

Article V—DUES AND FEES

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Section 1.★★

Dues for individual membership shall be all-inclusive, for membership in the National Congress, the state branch, and the local Congress unit. These dues shall be apportioned by the national, state, and local bylaws, respectively.

Section 2.

a. ★ In state branches the annual dues to the National

Congress shall be five cents (5¢) per capita for every member of each local Congress unit.

b. In unorganized areas the annual dues to the National Congress shall be ten cents (10¢) for each member of a local Congress unit.

ENROLLMENT

Section 3.

An annual enrollment of members shall be conducted in each local Congress unit. Additional members shall be accepted at any time.

PAYMENT OF DUES

Section 4.

a. ★★ The treasurer of each local Congress unit in state branches shall send the annual national and state portions of the dues of each individual member in the local Congress unit to the treasurer of the state branch through such channels and at such times as the state bylaws provide.

b. ★★ The local treasurer shall keep the record of national and state portions of the membership dues separate from the record of the general funds of the local Congress unit.

c. ★ The treasurer of the state branch shall send quarterly to the national treasurer the amount of national dues on hand, accompanied by a statement giving the name and location of each local unit from which dues were received and the number of members in each local unit.

d. The treasurers of local Congress units in unorganized areas shall remit dues annually to the national treasurer on or before April 1, accompanied by a statement giving the name and mailing address of the president of each local Congress unit.

FEES FOR HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Section 5.

a. The fee payable for Honorary National Life Membership shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00), which shall be made a part of the national Endowment Fund.

b. Each state branch shall be authorized to determine in its bylaws the fee that will constitute an honorary state life membership.

Article VI—FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the National Congress shall be from April 16 through April 15 inclusive.

Article VII—OFFICERS

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Section 1.

The officers of the National Congress shall be a president, ten vice-presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer. They shall be divided into three groups:

a. Group one (1) shall consist of the president, first vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

b. Group two (2) shall consist of the vice-presidents

from Regions III, V, VII, and VIII. (See page 10 for list of regions.)

c. Group three (3) shall consist of the second vice-president and the vice-presidents from Regions I, II, IV, and VI. (See page 10 for list of regions.)

d. The groups shall be elected in numerical order. One group shall be elected each year to serve for a term of three (3) years or until their successors are elected. Only one group shall be elected in any one calendar year.

Section 2.

a. The president, the first and second vice-presidents, the secretary, and the treasurer shall be chosen from the membership at large of the Congress.

b. Eight vice-presidents shall be chosen from regions designated by the Board of Managers.

c. In the event a vice-president from a region moves out of the region from which he was elected, this shall constitute a vacancy in the office, which shall be filled by a duly qualified person of that region as provided in Article VIII, Section 2,d and Section 3, and Article X, 2,a. (See page 10 for list of regions.)

Article VIII—COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

Section 1.

A committee on nominations, consisting of five members, shall be elected annually by ballot by the Board of Managers from its own membership at its regular postconvention meeting and shall serve until the next regular postconvention meeting.

DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

Section 2. The committee on nominations shall:

a. Select one nominee for each office to be filled at the next convention.

b. Send a list of the nominees to the national secretary, who shall send a copy to each member of the National Board of Managers at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening date of the convention.

A list of these nominees shall be printed in the *National Congress Bulletin*. The state presidents and the local Congress unit presidents shall be responsible for informing their membership of the list of nominees.

c. Report to the convention on the first day of the session, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.

d. Present to the Board of Managers nominations for offices in which vacancies occur during its term.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR NOMINATION

Section 3.

a. ★ Only a member of a local Congress unit shall be eligible to hold office in the National Congress or any of its branches.

b. An officer of the National Congress shall not serve two (2) terms in the same office.

c. A member having served in one vice-presidency from a designated region (see page 10) shall not be eligible to another vice-presidency, except that of first or second vice-president.

d. A member having served in one vice-presidency from a region (see page 10) shall not be eligible to a vice-presidency from another region until after the interim of at least one (1) term.

e. An officer having served one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) or more of a term shall be credited with having served that complete term.

f. A member shall not serve on the Board of Managers in more than one capacity at a time.

g. Item "f" shall not apply to members of the Board of Managers whose terms expire within six (6) months following the convention.

h. Only a member of a local Congress unit whose consent has been secured shall be eligible to nomination either by the committee or from the floor.

Article IX—COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

APPOINTMENT

Section 1.

A committee on elections, consisting of five members of the Board of Managers, shall be chosen by the Executive Committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention. The chairman shall be a member of the Executive Committee. The members shall be notified of their appointment to this committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

DUTIES

Section 2. The committee on elections shall:

a. Have charge of the election at the annual convention.

b. Be responsible for printing of the ballots, which shall show the names of all nominees for each office with sufficient space for write-in votes, if ballots are used.

c. Be responsible for collecting voting credentials from members.

d. Have at least one of its members on duty at the polls during the voting period.

e. Tabulate the votes and make a complete report to the convention of the votes cast.

Article X—ELECTION OF OFFICERS

METHOD OF ELECTION

Section 1.

a. Officers shall be elected on the second day of the annual convention, except as provided in Article XIII, when the convention is dispensed with because of an emergency.

b. Voting shall be by ballot or voting machine, and a majority of the votes cast shall constitute an election.

c. Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the convention at which they were elected.

VACANCIES IN OFFICE

Section 2.

a. A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by the Board of Managers.

b. Voting shall be by ballot if there is more than one nominee for the office.

c. If a ten (10) day notice of the election is given to the members of the Board of Managers, a majority of the votes cast shall constitute an election. Without such notice a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote shall be required.

HONORARY OFFICERS

Section 3.

The title of honorary president or vice-president is honorary only and does not confer the privileges of membership upon those bearing such titles. (The practice of conferring these titles was discontinued in the 1956 convention.)

Article XI—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Section 1. The president shall:

a. Preside at meetings of the National Congress, the Board of Managers, and the Executive Committee.

b. Between meetings of the Executive Committee, employ such staff personnel as may be found necessary.

c. Select a professional parliamentarian to serve at meetings of the convention and the Board of Managers, and at such other meetings as the president may designate, and to render such other services as the president may deem advisable.

d. Determine the duties of the vice-presidents from the regions. (See page 10 for list of regions.)

e. Determine the duties of the immediate past president.

f. Coordinate the work of the officers and committees, in order that the Objects of the Congress may be promoted.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Section 2.

a. The first and second vice-presidents shall act as aides to the president and shall, in order of their rank, perform the duties of the president in the absence or inability of that officer to serve.

b. The duties of the eight vice-presidents elected from the regions (see page 10) shall be determined annually by the president.

c. The order of precedence of the vice-presidents from the regions (see page 10) shall be decided annually by the Executive Committee at its regular postconvention meeting.

SECRETARY

Section 3. The secretary shall:

a. Record the minutes of meetings of the National Congress, the Board of Managers, and the Executive Committee.

- b. Notify officers and standing committee chairmen of their election.
- c. Issue notices of meetings of the National Congress and of the Board of Managers.
- d. Be responsible for mailing to each member of the Board of Managers a copy of minutes of all meetings listed in item "a."
- e. Conduct such correspondence as the National Congress, the Board of Managers, or the Executive Committee may direct.

TREASURER

Section 4. The treasurer shall:

- a. Be a member of the budget committee and a director of the Endowment Fund.
- b. Collect and disburse National Congress funds with the exception of the Endowment Fund.
- c. Deposit funds in a depository approved by the Board of Managers.
- d. Disburse funds in accordance with the approved budget and/or upon direction of the Board of Managers.
- e. Present a financial statement at each meeting of the Board of Managers and at other times as requested by the president.
- f. Close the books at the end of the fiscal year and submit them for audit to a certified public accountant approved by the budget committee.

Duties of the treasurer, except those specified in item "a" of this section, may be delegated to one or more staff personnel designated by the Executive Committee.

The treasurer and all other persons authorized to handle National Congress funds shall give fidelity bonds in amounts determined by the Executive Committee. The expense of these bonds shall be borne by the National Congress.

ALL OFFICERS

Section 5. All officers shall:

- a. Perform the duties prescribed in the parliamentary authority in addition to those outlined in these Bylaws and those assigned from time to time.
- b. Deliver to their successors all official material within ten (10) days following the close of the convention at which their term of office expires.

Article XII—ANNUAL CONVENTION

DATE AND PLACE

Section 1.

- a. A convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers shall be held annually at a date not earlier than April 30, nor later than May 31, except under conditions stated in Article XIII. The time and place of each convention shall be determined by the Executive Committee at its fall meeting three (3) years prior to the time of the convention.
- b. Notice of the convention shall be sent to each member of the Board of Managers at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention. The call to the con-

vention shall be printed in the *National Congress Bulletin*. The state presidents and the local Congress unit presidents shall be responsible for informing their membership of the time and place of the convention.

- c. The annual convention shall be the governing body of the National Congress.

VOTING BODY

Section 2.

- a. The voting body of the convention shall consist of the members of the National Board of Managers, duly accredited delegates from each state branch, and one accredited delegate from each Congress unit in unorganized areas.

- b. ★ Each state branch shall be entitled to be represented at the annual convention of the National Congress by its president, three other members of the state board of managers or their alternates, and one delegate for each one thousand members or major fraction thereof, as shown on the records of the national treasurer as of April 15.

- c. ★ The selection of state delegates and their alternates shall be authorized by the board of managers of the state.

- d. The privilege of introducing motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to the voting body provided in item "a."

- e. The annual convention of the National Congress shall be open to all members upon payment of the registration fee as determined by the Executive Committee.

QUORUM

Section 3.

One hundred and fifty delegates representing a majority of the state branches shall constitute a quorum.

Article XIII—CANCELLATION OF CONVENTION

Section 1.

In the event of a national emergency, epidemic, or other disaster, the Board of Managers shall have authority to determine by a two-thirds (2/3) vote whether or not a convention shall be held. The vote on this question may be taken by mail in the event a meeting of the Board of Managers cannot be held.

Section 2.

In the event that a convention is not held the Board of Managers shall plan procedure for conducting all necessary business by mail, which shall include the election of officers.

Article XIV—BOARD OF MANAGERS

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

There shall be a Board of Managers comprised of the officers of the National Congress, the president of each state branch or his alternate as designated by the state bylaws, and the chairman of each stand-

ing committee and the immediate past president of the National Congress.

DUTIES

Section 2. The Board of Managers shall:

- a. Have authority over the affairs of the National Congress during the interim between its annual conventions, except those specifically delegated to the Executive Committee. It may not, however, modify any action taken by the convention.
- b. Settle all questions of doubt regarding the recognition of organized units.
- c. Decide all questions involving failure of states to comply with the Bylaws of the National Congress, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
- d. Select two persons from the membership of the Board of Managers and two from the membership at large to be elected directors of the Endowment Fund of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. The term of office of the two directors selected from the membership of the Board of Managers shall be three years, and such directors shall be eligible for reelection; the two directors selected from the membership at large shall serve for a term of four years, and such directors shall be eligible for reelection.
- e. Have authority to adopt rules for the transaction of its business provided the rules do not conflict with the Bylaws of the National Congress or with any special rules adopted by the convention.
- f. Declare an emergency as provided in Article XIII and plan procedure for conducting necessary business of the Congress during the emergency.

MEETINGS

Section 3.

- a. *Regular meetings* of the Board of Managers shall be held immediately preceding and following each annual convention of the National Congress and in the fall of each year between September 15 and October 16.
- b. *Special meetings* of the Board of Managers may be called by the president and shall be called upon written request of nine of its members.
- c. *The time and place* of all meetings of the Board of Managers shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- d. At least thirty (30) days' notice of regular meetings and ten (10) days' notice of special meetings of the Board of Managers shall be given by the secretary.

QUORUM

Section 4.

- a. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum in any meeting of the Board of Managers.
- b. When voting upon legislation items for state consideration a quorum shall include at least one half of the state presidents or their alternates.

Section 5.

Each member of the Board of Managers shall submit a report of his parent-teacher work for inclusion in the annual report of the National Congress.

Section 6.

- a. A member of the Board of Managers shall not go into a state as a representative of the National Congress for service in connection with parent-teacher work, local or state, without the consent of the state president or of the state board of managers.
- b. A member of the National Congress staff shall not be sent into a state for state congress work without the approval of the state president or of the state board of managers.

Article XV—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

There shall be an Executive Committee of the National Congress comprised of the officers (Article VII, Section 1), the chairman of the state presidents' conference, and the chairman of the national chairmen's conference.

MEETINGS

Section 2.

- a. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the president or upon written request of five of its members.
- b. Seven members shall constitute a quorum in any meeting of the Executive Committee.

DUTIES

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall:

- a. Perform the duties delegated to it in these Bylaws.
- b. Transact business referred to it by the Board of Managers.
- c. Act in emergencies between meetings of the Board of Managers.
- d. Serve as program committee for the annual convention of the Congress.
- e. Decide questions of cooperation with other national organizations.
- f. Receive and pass upon the plans of work of chairmen of standing committees, and authorize and direct the work of each.
- g. Act, upon request from unorganized areas, for the organization of a state branch.
- h. Appoint, from recommendations made by the president, such staff personnel as may be necessary to perform the work of the Congress, fix their salaries, define their duties, and make provision for their welfare and security.
- i. Select the time and place of all meetings of the Board of Managers and of the National Congress.
- j. Submit to the Board of Managers such recommendations as it deems advisable.
- k. Appoint a committee on elections, consisting of five members from the Board of Managers, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the convention.
- l. Determine the amount and authorize payment of fidelity bonds for the treasurer and all other persons authorized to handle funds of the National Congress.

m. Take no action in conflict with that of the Board of Managers.

Article XVI—COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1.

- a.** Standing committees may be created by the Board of Managers as deemed necessary to promote the Objects and carry on the work of the National Congress.
- b.** Each standing committee shall consist of a national chairman and such other persons as may be approved by the Board of Managers.
- c.** Chairmen of standing committees shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. No chairman shall be eligible to serve as a national chairman for more than two (2) consecutive terms. Upon the expiration of the second consecutive term, a chairman shall be ineligible for election to another chairmanship.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMEN

Section 2.

- a.** Nominations for chairmen of standing committees shall be made by a committee of seven elected by ballot by the Board of Managers from its own membership at its regular postconvention meeting preceding the convention at which the national officers in group one (1) are elected. The seven receiving the highest number of votes shall constitute the committee on nominations.
- b.** A list of nominees for chairmen of standing committees shall be sent thirty (30) days before the opening day of the convention to members of the Board of Managers and the nominees for officers of the National Congress.

ELIGIBILITY TO NOMINATION

Section 3

- a.** Only a member of a local Congress unit, whose consent has been secured, shall be eligible to nomination for chairman of a standing committee, either by the committee or from the floor.
- b.** A chairman of a standing committee having served one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) or more of a term shall be credited with having served that complete term.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN

Section 4.

- a.** Election of chairmen of standing committees shall be held during the convention at which the president is elected.
- b.** A special electing group, consisting of the newly elected officers, the holdover officers, and the presidents of state branches, shall meet to elect these chairmen immediately following the convention meeting at which the officers in group one (1) are declared elected.
- c.** Additional nominations may be made from the floor at this meeting. Voting shall be by ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall constitute an election.

DUTIES OF CHAIRMEN

Section 5.

- a.** The chairman of each standing committee shall submit a plan of work to the Executive Committee for approval. No committee work shall be undertaken without the consent of the Executive Committee.
- b.** The chairman of each standing committee shall continue the plan of work established by his predecessor until such time as his plan of work is approved.
- c.** If any chairman fails to submit a plan of work by April 1 following his election, the chairmanship may be declared vacant.
- d.** A chairman of a standing committee shall circulate no material or form letter without the approval of the president or of a national officer designated by the president.

VACANCIES IN CHAIRMANSIPS

Section 6.

If a vacancy occurs in the chairmanship of a standing committee, the president shall appoint a member of the Board of Managers to perform the duties of that chairman until the following regular meeting of the Board of Managers. At this meeting the Board of Managers shall elect a committee of three to submit nominations to fill the vacancy. Voting for the nominees shall be by ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall constitute an election.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 7.

- a.** Special committees may be created and appointed by the president or by the Board of Managers.
- b.** A committee on resolutions shall be appointed by the president and shall function as directed by the Board of Managers.
- c.** The president shall appoint a special committee to review and approve state bylaws and those of Congress units in unorganized areas.

PRESIDENT EX OFFICIO

Section 8.

The president shall be ex officio a member of all committees except the committees on nominations and elections.

Article XVII—STATE PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE AND NATIONAL CHAIRMEN'S CONFERENCE

MEETINGS

Section 1.

- a.** The state presidents and the standing committee chairmen shall each hold a group conference in connection with meetings of the Board of Managers.
- b.** Each conference group shall elect a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary-treasurer at the time of the annual convention.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF STATE PRESIDENTS' GROUP

Section 2.

Nominations for officers in the state presidents' group

shall be made by a committee of three elected by the group at the conference held during the fall meeting of the Board of Managers. Any state president whose term expires before the annual convention shall be ineligible to nomination.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN'S GROUP

Section 3.

a. Nominations for officers in the national chairmen's conference group shall be made by a committee of three elected by the group at the conference held during the fall meeting of the Board of Managers, except as provided in the following item "b."

b. In the year of the election of national officers in group one (1), the committee on nominations shall be elected at a meeting held during the annual convention, after the election of national chairmen and prior to the postconvention meeting of the Board of Managers.

TERM OF OFFICE

Section 4.

These officers shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until their successors are elected.

Article XVIII—ENDOWMENT FUND

THE FUND

Section 1.

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers has an Endowment Fund that is held and administered by a separate not-for-profit corporation organized for this purpose under the laws of the State of Illinois, and known as "The Endowment Fund of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers." The management of the Fund is entrusted to a board of directors of the nonprofit corporation, consisting of five members elected by the National Congress as the sole member of this corporation.

INCOME OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Section 2.

Except as the National Congress by its Board of Managers may at any time or from time to time direct that the net income of the Endowment Fund shall be paid to the National Congress, such income is accumulated and added at the end of each fiscal year to the Fund. The income received from the Endowment Fund shall be used by the National Congress only for the expense and maintenance of its headquarters, the expense of field services, and the expense of its Executive Committee and Board of Managers.

DIRECTORS OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Section 3.

The treasurer of the National Congress shall be elected as one of the directors of the Endowment Fund of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, and shall serve as such director during his tenure of office as

treasurer of the National Congress. The other four directors to be elected shall be selected for the purpose by the Board of Managers in the manner provided in Article XIV, Section 2,d. Any director of the Endowment Fund may be removed at any time for just cause, and any vacancy occurring in the board of directors of the Endowment Fund may be filled by the National Congress acting through the Board of Managers.

Article XIX—NATIONAL OFFICE

A national office shall be maintained in the National Headquarters building at 700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois. The National Office shall be under the general supervision of the president of the National Congress.

Article XX—STATE BRANCHES

PURPOSE

Section 1.

The purpose of a state branch shall be to promote the Objects and policies of the National Congress.

STATE BYLAWS

Section 2.

a. Each state branch shall have the authority to adopt such bylaws as do not conflict with the Bylaws of the National Congress.

b. Each state branch shall include in its bylaws those articles and sections of the Bylaws of the National Congress that bear a star. Articles and sections marked with double stars shall be included in state branch and local Congress unit bylaws. (Wording of starred articles and sections shall be changed to apply to the state branch or local unit.)

c. State branches may use phrases from their articles of incorporation not in conflict with the Bylaws or policies of the National Congress.

d. State bylaws and amendments thereto shall be reviewed and approved by a special committee appointed by the president of the National Congress.

STATE REPORT

Section 3.

The state president shall submit a report of parent-teacher work in the state for inclusion in the annual report of the National Congress.

UNITS

Section 4.

a. Each state branch may organize parent-teacher associations as local units of the state and National Congress, to be known as local Congress units.

b. Local Congress units shall adopt bylaws in harmony with the Bylaws of the National Congress and with those of the state branch. Local Congress unit bylaws and amendments thereto shall be approved by a committee of one or more state board members as designated in the state bylaws.

c. Each state branch may determine the membership year for its local Congress units, and approve local unit bylaws that will establish eligibility for voting and holding office. Such bylaws shall not be in conflict with the Bylaws and policies of the National Congress.

d. A local Congress unit shall pay state and national dues for each member.

e. The purpose of a local Congress unit shall be to promote the Objects and policies of the National Congress.

f. Only a member of a local Congress unit shall be eligible to office in any division of a state branch.

g. A state branch may legislate for local Congress units, provided such action does not conflict with the Bylaws of the National Congress.

DIVISIONS

Section 5.

a. Each state branch may provide for the organization of geographical divisions of the state for convenience of administration of the state work.

b. Geographical divisions within a state shall operate under rules or bylaws approved by the state board of managers or its appointee.

c. State geographical divisions shall not legislate for the local Congress units.

COUNCILS

Section 6.

a. Each state branch may provide for the organization of councils in counties, cities, or other areas designated by the state board of managers, for the purpose of conference and cooperation among local Congress units.

b. Only local Congress units shall be members of a council of parent-teacher associations.

c. Councils shall be governed by bylaws approved by the state board of managers or its appointee.

d. A council may not legislate for the local Congress units.

STATE COMMITTEES

Section 7.

a. Each state branch shall provide for state standing committees to correspond to those of the National Congress insofar as the state deems it advisable. Additional standing committees shall be created when necessary.

b. State special committees may be appointed as designated in the state bylaws.

CONVENTION

Section 8.

The annual convention shall be the governing body of the state branch.

REQUEST FOR ORGANIZATION OF A BRANCH

Section 9.

A request for organization as a branch of the National Congress from associations in unorganized areas of the United States or its possessions, or from associations in American schools for American personnel on foreign assignments, shall be acted upon by the Executive Committee of the National Congress.

★★Article XXI—PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and all of its branches in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws of the National Congress.

Article XXII—AMENDMENTS

REQUIREMENTS

Section 1.

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any annual convention provided the following requirements shall have been complied with:

a. The proposed amendment shall have been proposed by the committee on Bylaws or by the Executive Committee, and approved by the National Board of Managers.

b. A copy of the proposed amendment shall have been sent from the National Office to each member of the Board of Managers at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening day of the convention.

c. The proposed amendment shall also have been published in the *National Congress Bulletin* prior to the convention.

AUTOMATIC AMENDMENT TO STATE BYLAWS

Section 2.

The adoption of an amendment to the articles and sections of these Bylaws that bear a star shall automatically amend the bylaws of the states to conform to the action taken by the national convention. This provision shall apply also to local bylaws.

REGIONS OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS

Branches are grouped into regions as follows:

REGION I—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

REGION II—Delaware, District of Columbia, European Congress of American Parents and Teachers, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

REGION III—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

REGION IV—Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin

REGION V—Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota

REGION VI—Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas

REGION VII—Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming

REGION VIII—Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah

P.T.A. BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEF ITEMS OF CURRENT INTEREST

Administration Theme

1958-61

**"Strengthening the Home,
Source of Our Nation's Greatness"**

- **TO ACQUAINT PARENTS** with the services offered by the school system, four workshops were held by the Taylor School P.T.A. in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The subjects covered were psychological services, outdoor education (camping and field trips), the afterschool recreation program, and remedial reading. Mrs. Manuel Reider, then program chairman, planned the workshops, with the help of Dr. O. E. Hill, superintendent of the Cleveland Heights schools.
- **FAMILY FUN NIGHTS** are replacing frantic money-making efforts in Ponca City P.T.A.'s, reports the *Oklahoma Parent-Teacher*. The units have revamped their plans and are setting their sights lower in terms of cash needed, to correct any impression that the P.T.A. exists solely for fund-raising purposes. Now, with financial obligations reduced, P.T.A. cooperation with youth-serving organizations puts the accent on something far more valuable—service and good will. The units are finding that family fun nights enlist the participation of many at little cost to the individual, provide relaxing entertainment for the whole family, and give people in the community a chance to get better acquainted.
- **"HOW CAN THE HIGH SCHOOL P.T.A. Serve Your School?"** was the title of a panel discussion presented by the Oregon Congress at a fall conference of the Oregon Association of Secondary-School Principals. The panel explained the value of, and worthwhile projects carried on by, school P.T.A.'s and then gave principals a chance to speak from the floor.
- **A WARM WELCOME** is extended by the P.T.A. of the Lafayette School, Newark, New Jersey, to newcomers in the community who do not speak English. A "welcome committee" has been set up to approach new Spanish-speaking neighbors in their homes, welcome them to the community, and explain the work of the P.T.A. and invite them to join. The teacher of the evening Americanization classes is on hand at P.T.A. meetings to speak to foreign parents. In its flyers, the unit includes short P.T.A. notices in Spanish, announcing dates of meetings, and inviting the newcomers to attend.

- **ON PARENTS' DAY** at Union High School (Forest Grove, Oregon), every student who could persuade a parent to attend class in his stead was given a day of freedom from school. The P.T.A., which introduced the idea, outlined the parent-pupils' activities for the day: They were to ride the school bus, carry Junior's books, attend his classes, and eat lunch in the school cafeteria. Approximately 275 parents attended, and all agreed that it was a highly successful experiment.
- **HOW MANY P.T.A.'s CAN EQUAL THE RECORD** of the Washington School P.T.A. (Second District, Kentucky)? For the fifth consecutive year, it could point to "100 per cent membership—every mother, every father, and every teacher a member." Total membership of the unit was 816 (1957-58).



- **EXHIBIT CASES OF CONGRESS PUBLICATIONS** are inspiring many units in the Western Long Island District, New York, to build P.T.A. bookshelves. The New York State Congress supplies one exhibit case to each of the state's nineteen districts. But the exhibit proved so popular in the Western Long Island District that the district had to purchase and set up three additional ones to take care of the demand. A unit may request an exhibit for a meeting or conference; its only expense is the return postage.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK November 9-15

Theme: Report Card U.S.A.

► This year, with the public's concern focused on its schools, the outlook for arousing interest in American Education Week is good. As units of one of the sponsoring organizations, it is hoped that P.T.A.'s will take advantage of this public attention to implement substantially the goals of the annual observance: (1) to inform the public of the accomplishment and needs of its schools and (2) to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting the needs.

Although the usual list of daily topics is suggested, local planners may prefer to regard it as a general guide. In order to beam their observances at local conditions and interests, they may want to shift or combine topics and days in the list or possibly substitute some of the additional topics for those in the week's setup.

Information on materials that have been designed to help spark community interest in this thirty-eighth AEW can be requested from American Education Week, National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

DAILY TOPICS

- Sunday —Report Card: Character Building
- Monday —Report Card: Responsible Citizenship
- Tuesday —Report Card: Education and Survival
- Wednesday—Report Card: The Curriculum
- Thursday —Report Card: The Teacher (National Teachers Day)
- Friday —Report Card: Developing Talents
- Saturday —Report Card: Community Teamwork

Additional Topics

Report Card: Building and Facilities; Report Card: Guidance and Counseling; Report Card: Lifelong Learning; Report Card: International Understanding.

Sponsorship

The American Legion, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, the National Education Association, and the U.S. Office of Education.

Help Yourself to Better Mailing Service!

► PLEASE be sure to *give complete addresses whenever you write to the National Congress*—for any reason whatsoever! By *complete address* we mean one that includes the postal zone number when zoning is used in the city mentioned in an address. In other words, treat an established zone number as an integral part of an address. *Use it always.*

This is no idle request; it is an exacting requirement made by the Post Office Department in its attempts to handle mail more economically and efficiently. Hence we must request that zone numbers be included, for example:

- When writing about present *National Parent-Teacher and National Congress Bulletin* subscriptions.
- When sending in new subscriptions.
- When ordering Congress publications.
- When requesting or relaying any kind of information.

Use zone numbers, also, in return addresses on envelopes.

The National Congress also has a zone number, which is **11**. To avoid any delays, address all mail to the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 700 North Rush Street, **Chicago 11, Illinois**.

We're counting on you to spread the word among subscribers and other P.T.A. members. The kind of mailing service they get from the National Congress may depend on it!

► We again ask that *National Parent-Teacher and National Congress Bulletin* subscribers send any changes of address directly to us as soon as they know about them. Such promptness, now that the post office has almost doubled its charges for change of address service, will save your national organization hundreds of dollars a year.

COMING IN THE OCTOBER NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER

Diversified Studies for Diversified Students by *James B. Conant*. Are changes needed in our high schools, and, if so, what changes? Perhaps no one is better qualified to answer these questions than is James B. Conant, one of America's most eminent educators, who has just spent a year visiting public high schools in twenty states. Dr. Conant's observations are both heartening and challenging—heartening because he disagrees with those who demand radical changes in our high schools, and challenging because he believes that the good practices he has seen in some schools can become the good practices of high schools generally.

Do We Fail To Challenge Our Children? by *Ruth Strang*. How can we encourage our child to do his best? Is it necessary to nag him, to push him and prod him? In this article, Ruth Strang, professor of education at Teachers College, Columbia University, gives wise counsel on how to achieve a balance between strictness and overpermissiveness in guiding a child toward his best development.

A Nation's Concern for Its Children by *Katherine Brownell Oettinger*. Our rapidly changing times have brought new needs to all of us, and especially to children and youth. The U.S. Children's Bureau finds that, in spite of its constant efforts to develop new services for children, there are still many gaps to be bridged. Katherine Brownell Oettinger, Bureau chief, explains these gaps and outlines what must be done to assure every child an opportunity for a full and satisfying life.

Young Financier: The Child with an Allowance by *Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg and Hilda Sidney Krech*. Does a child need an allowance? When should the allowance start? How large should it be? What should it include? Sensible advice on a perplexing subject is given by Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg, consultant to the Child Study Association, and her daughter, Hilda Sidney Krech.

National Parent-Teacher Subscription Rates

- \$1.50 a year—U.S. and possessions
- \$1.75 a year—Canada
- \$2.00 a year—Other countries